SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE : Sir, I have a different question. Sir, in the police stations, particulary, during the night time, posting of female police personnel is of utmost importance to practically prevent harassment of the women detenues. May, I know from the Minister whether the Union Government is taking up this issue with the State Governments? If so, what is the result? What are the recommendations of the Union Government?

SHRI I.D. SWAMI : Would you kindly repeat your question ? I have not followed it.

SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE : Practically, in all the police stations, during the nighttime, posting of female police personnel is of utmost importance. Women are harassed even during the day time in the Capital city of Delhi. To prevent harassment to women detenues during night what is the Government doing ? This is the most important issue. I would like to know whether the Central Government has taken up this issue with the State Governments.

SHRI I.D. SWAMI : Sir, we have taken up this issue very seriously. We have already circulated certain recommendations to the State Governments. One of the recommendations is, at places where they cannot have purely women manned police stations, at least, two women personnel should be posted at each police station. We have made this recommendation and we have circulated it to the State Governments. Some of the State Government have already implemented it.

श्री सभापति: मैं आज उन मेंबर्स को चांस दे रहा हूं जो कभी सवाल नहीं पूछते।

श्री प्रेम गुप्ता : महोदय, यह बहुत जरूरी सवाल है।

श्री सभापति : मैं बाद में आपकी बात करा दूंगा। प्रश्न संख्या 469।

Indo-French joint venture on rural development

*469. DR. M.N. DAS :††

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether India and France have signed an agreement in regard to joint venture on rural development ;

††The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Dr. M.N. Das.

(b) if so, whether a 170 members delegation accompanying the French Prime Minister during their visit to India have signed this agreement ;

(c) if so, the details of the agreement; and

(d) to what, extent both the countries have agreed to develop the relations on rural development ?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) No, Sir. India and France have not signed any agreement in regard to joint venture on rural development.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

DR. M. N. DAS : Sir, we are thankful to the Government that our questions have misfired. The answers are "No. Sir. No. Sir. Does not arise." But it gives me a handle to expose the loud talks or tall talks of the Government. Is the Hon. Minister aware of the fact that his predecessor, Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu, paid a visit to France in July, 2001? He met different agencies, different persons and held different types of talks about Indo-French collaboration in regard to development of agriculture, development of rural roads, etc. If all those things came to nothing, does it mean that the Government wants to * by this propaganda?

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : Sir, the Hon. Member is extremely concerned about it. But some of the words used by the Hon. Member, i.e. the Government wants to* and such other things, may be removed from the record. Whatever answer I have given, is a factual answer. My esteemed predecessor, Shri Venkaiah Naidu, visited France as Minister of Rural Development from 19th to 22nd July 2001. He held wide-ranging discussions with his French counterpart, Mr. Geen Glavani, especially in regard to the Pradhanmantri Gram Sadak Yojana, the National Network of Rural Roads and Self-help Groups. They also evinced keen interest. On 14-2-2003, the Ministry of Rural Development requested the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, to associate themselves with the Indo-French Working

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

Group on Road Sector, which they have done. The entire thing is still at a discussion stage. That is why I have said in my reply that there has been no agreement between India and France regarding rural development programmes.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Sir, Shri Venkaiah Naidu went to France and inspired them to give some help for rural development and for construction of village roads. My request to the Hon. Minister is, he should also go to France and ask them to give some help. He can be successful. The Minister is saying that they have asked the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways to associate themselves with the Ministry. How are they concerned with it ? The Minister of Rural Development should try to get more money from France for the development of villages. When is he going to do it? The Minister must give an assurance to the House.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : Sir, we will pursue the matter whenever the Franch counterparts come to India and we have already invited them.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, next question. श्री दास ने गवर्नमेंट के लिए जो वर्ड यूज किया है उसको मैं एक्सपंज करता हूं।

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : If he takes me to France, I will plead for the Indian Government and get more money for rural development.

श्री सभापति: अनन्त कुमार जी आपको फ्रांस ले गए तो वे वापस आएंगे कि नहीं आएंगे लेकिन आप तो आ जाएंगे।

Induction of Defence Personnel into other branches of Government

*470. SHRI SHANKAR ROY CHOWDHURY : Will the Minister of PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to introduce any scheme of lateral induction of Defence Services (officers and personnel below officer rank) into other branches of Government, to provide some career aspirations to Defence Services; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?